

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

25X1

COUNTRY China

SUBJECT The Communist NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY's (NCNA)
English Morse Transmissions to North America

HOW
PUBLISHED Radio

DATE DIST. 28 October 1949

WHERE
PUBLISHED

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE
PUBLISHED

LANGUAGE

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Improvement in Style and Clarity: During the 4½ years since NCNA began English Morse transmissions there has been a steady improvement in the style and clarity of the material transmitted. When first monitored, the dispatches were composed of exceptionally involved and lengthy sentences; today the sentences are shorter and more precise. Today, also, NCNA copy is marked by accurate use of definite and indefinite articles, meticulous punctuation, and careful paragraphing--which was not the case when first monitored. British, rather than American, spelling and style continue to be used. If the material transmitted is written originally in Chinese and then translated into English, as appears probable, the resulting translations demonstrate ease and clarity in expressing even involved ideological concepts.
2. Consistency: The uniformity in style of the material transmitted indicates careful, thorough, and consistent editing--which may account, in part, for the lag that often occurs between a given event and the NCNA report or comment on that event. The delay may be as much as a week or longer and is seldom less than three days.
3. Accuracy of Translations: NCNA English Morse transmissions conform with great exactness to the meaning of the Mandarin-language voice broadcasts from which the former may be translated. In further pursuit of accuracy, the NCNA Morse operator on occasion follows a program with minor corrections which make no appreciable change in the meaning of the corrected item.

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